

## House Resolution 1845

By: Representatives Collins of the 95<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 122<sup>nd</sup>, Greene of the 149<sup>th</sup>, Mangham of the 94<sup>th</sup>, Dawkins-Haigler of the 93<sup>rd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Georgia's African American Horse Council Rodeo Cowboy,  
2 Mr. William Ray Higginbottom; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, African American cowboys and cowgirls of Georgia diligently and  
4 conscientiously devote their time, talents, and energy to giving back to their community  
5 through education programs and community service efforts; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. William Ray Higginbottom has long been recognized by the citizens of this  
7 state for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to  
8 the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, a native of Akron, Ohio, Mr. Higginbottom has been part of the professional  
10 rodeo industry for many years and competes under his given Indian name Billy Ray Thunder;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, before beginning his career as a professional rodeo cowboy, Mr. Higginbottom  
13 served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United States Army and the  
14 United States Navy, valiantly and courageously serving in Germany and Korea; and

15 WHEREAS, while stationed in Germany, Mr. Higginbottom formed a German American  
16 football team called the Stuttgart Stallions and played semi-professional football in  
17 Cleveland, Ohio, after high school; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Higginbottom uplifts the lives of others through his community service and  
19 selfless dedication to others and is proud to be part of the African American cowboy legacy;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, he is a kindhearted and magnanimous rodeo cowboy who brings great pride to  
22 his family, neighbors, and community; and

23 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the extraordinary accomplishments of  
24 this distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
26 the members of this body commend African American Horse Council Rodeo Cowboy Mr.  
27 William Ray Higginbottom on his many accomplishments and selfless contributions to  
28 others.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
30 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. William Ray  
31 Higginbottom.